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Food Marketing NEWSLETTER

PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
MIDWESTERN AREA - OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES ---

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
623 S. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS.

January 14, 1953

GRAINS

U. S. farmers placed more than 100 million bus. 1952-crop corn under price support through December 15, 1952. In 1951 total corn under support end of December was less than 10 million bus.

Total 1952-crop grains and oilseeds placed under support through December 15 was 480.7 million bus., including, (million bus.): wheat, 342.8; barley, 6.8; oats, 15.8; rye, 0.1; grain sorghum 2.6; flaxseed, 3.1; soybeans, 8.9; corn, 100.3.

Also placed under support were 373,555 cwt. winter cover crop seed, 272,368 cwt hay and pasture grass seed, 1,122,819 cwt. dry edible beans, and 174,781 cwt. rough rice.

Stocks on U.S. farms January 1 (million bus.): corn, 2,173; wheat, 399; oats, 792; barley, 99; rye, 4; flaxseed, 10; sorghum grain, 24; soybeans, 82; hay, 68 million tons.

PMA Commodity Offices report sales of following commodities in week ended January 9, from inventories acquired under price support: wheat, 63,467 bus.; corn, 881,456 bus.; barley, 26,596 bus.; edible dry beans, 1,120 cwt.; Austrian winter peas, 5,819 cwt.; clover seed, 60 lbs. Sales were for domestic use or for export.

U. S. exports of grains and grain products July through November, 1952, estimated by USDA at 186.8 million bus., compared with 253.5 million bus. in same period year earlier.

Shipments included: wheat and products, 124 million bus., nearly 60 million less than year earlier; coarse grains, 62.8 million bus., down about 6.8 million bu. Coarse grain exports included: corn, 32.5 million bus.; grain sorghum, 5 million bus.; barley, 21 million bus.; rye, 316,000 bus.

European countries took 43% of this year's shipments, central and South America, 18%; Far East, 19%; balance to Egypt, Canada, South Africa, Israel and others.

TOTAL 1952 PRODUCTION OF FEED GRAINS ESTIMATED 121 MILLION TONS, 8 MILLION TONS LARGER THAN 1951. CARRYOVER FROM LAST YEAR 20 MILLION TONS. ALLOWING FOR PROSPECTIVE REDUCTION IN LIVESTOCK NUMBERS, ESTIMATED SUPPLY IS A LITTLE LARGER PER ANIMAL UNIT THAN IN 1951-52 AND EQUAL TO 1946-50 AVERAGE.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

CCC investment in price support program loans and inventories as of Nov. 30 amounted to \$2,190,489,000. Corporation sustained net loss of \$12,058,000 first five months of fiscal year.

Of total investment, loans outstanding amounted to \$1,144,369,000, including \$551,155,000 of commodity loans held by lending agencies. Loans on wheat, tobacco, cotton, and wool accounted for about 90% of total.

Inventories acquired under loan, purchase agreement or direct purchase totaled \$1,046,120,000. Principal inventory items were: corn, 282.2 million bus.; wheat, 136.6 million bus.; linseed oil, 190 million lbs.; field seeds, 355.5 million lbs.; cotton, 235,754 bales; cottonseed oil, 184.4 million lbs.; dry edible beans, 2.5 million cwt.; cotton linters, 160.2 million lbs.; peanuts, 98.9 million lbs.

FATS AND OILS

Oleomargarine production during November estimated by Bureau of Census at 105,480,000 lbs. to bring January-November output to 1,154,679,000 lbs. This total about 10 million lbs. more than preliminary estimates of creamery butter production in same period.

U.S. exports of soybeans and soybean oil (on a soybean equivalent basis), totaled 44.8 million bus. in crop year ended September 30, 1952. This is sharp drop from record 79.2 million bus. exported during 1950-51 crop year. Shipments of soybeans dropped from 27.8 million bus. in 1950-51 to 17 million and soybean oil (in terms of crude) from 502 million lbs. to 271.7 million lbs.

LIVESTOCK AND MEATS

Cattle on feed January 1 in Iowa, Illinois and Nebraska, numbered 2,635,000 head, 30% more than on feed a year earlier, and a record high for these states.

Iowa leads with 1,274,000 head, up 271,000 in year. Nebraska with 731,000 head, had increase of 209,000, Illinois, 630,000, shows 126,000 head increase. Feeders expect to market 37% of cattle by April 1.

Number of sheep and lambs on feed on U.S. farms January 1 estimated 3,754,000 head, 284,000 (7%) less than last year.

Meat production under federal inspection amounted to 420 million lbs. in week ended January 10, 31% over the previous week, and 6% above same week year ago. Production included (million lbs.): beef, 172.2; veal, 13.8; pork, 219.5; lamb & mutton, 14.6.

DAIRY

USDA price support purchases through January 12: butter, Grade A, 19,356,168 lbs.; Grade B, 7,699,719; cheese, 5,236,424 lbs.; spray milk solids, 62,059,682 lbs.

November production: nonfat dry milk solids, 63 million lbs., except for 1949, highest November output in 18 years; dry whole milk, 4.8 million lbs., second lowest in decade; evaporated milk, 167.1 million lbs., highest for month since 1946; canned condensed milk, 3 million lbs., lowest for month since 1939.

Milk production on U. S. farms during December estimated 8,176 million lbs., 5% above December 1951, and slightly more than previous highs established in 1942 and '44. On basis of monthly estimates, milk production in 1952 totaled 114.8 billion lbs., compared with 115.6 billion in 1951 and a range of 112.7 billion and 119.8 billion lbs. in preceding decade.

POULTRY

U. S. chickens laid 5,063 million eggs during December, 6% more than December 1951 and a record for month. Estimated 1952 egg production amounted to 61,473 million eggs, 4% more than in 1951.

Potential layers on farms January 1 totaled 407.6 million, 4% less than a year earlier and 9% below average. Pullets not of laying age -- 24.8 million -- were the smallest number on farms January 1 in 23 years of record, and 45% below average for date.

FRUITS

Early and midseason orange crop estimated 57.8 million boxes, 21% above average. Valencia's forecast at 62.8 million boxes, 15% above average. Utilization through December, 19 million boxes, leaving 102 million boxes available after January 1.

Grapefruit crop estimated 37.4 million boxes, 27% below average. About 27.5 million boxes available after January 1, 4 million less than year earlier. California lemons forecast at 13.1 million boxes, 4% above average.

SINCE 1912 REPLACEMENT OF ANIMAL POWER BY MECHANICAL POWER ON U.S. FARMS HAS RELEASED MORE THAN 70 MILLION ACRES OF CROPLAND FROM PRODUCTION OF FEED FOR HORSES AND MULES TO CROPS FOR HUMAN USE. HORSE AND MULE NUMBERS DROPPED FROM HIGH OF 26.7 MILLION IN 1918 TO 6.3 MILLION IN 1952.

VEGETABLES

Stocks of Danish cabbage in New York state, held by growers or dealers on January 1 estimated 30 thousand tons, compared with 7 thousand a year ago; and ten year average holdings of 30.9 thousand on that date. Includes cabbage for fresh market and for kraut manufacture.

Indicated production (Jan. 1) of commercial cabbage in winter crop states, 357,300 tons. Production early Irish potatoes in Texas and Florida estimated January 1 at 3,746,000 bus., compared with 2,598,000 a year earlier. Potato growers in late spring states expect to plant 141,900 acres, based on January 1 preliminary estimates. This compares with 1952 acreage of 122,850.

SUGAR

Sugar distribution by primary distributors in continental U.S. during 1952 totaled 8,102,781 short tons, compared with 7,818,697 tons in 1951.

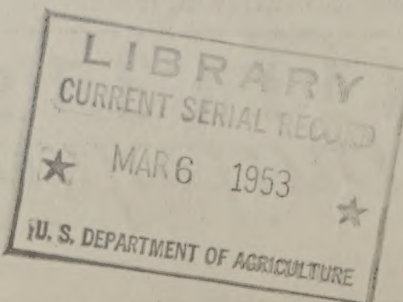
COTTON

Through January 2 producers placed 1,017,613 bales of 1952-crop cotton under price support, and loans on 45,620 bales were in process. Repayments made on 18,360 bales. Support level is 30.91¢ per lb. Middling 7/8 inch basis, representing 90% of August 1, 1952 parity.

Howard P. Davis, Dayton, Ohio, has been appointed Deputy Director of the Food Distribution Branch of the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C. Except for 3 years naval service, Davis has been with the Department since 1941.

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MIDWESTERN AREA - OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES --- 623 S. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

January 7, 1953

GRAINS

World wheat production 1952-53 forecast by OFAR at 7.24 billion bus., a record, compared with 6.02 billion bu. 1935-39 average. U.S. crop second largest of record, Canadian a record, western Europe near record, French North Africa and Asia a record, only Australia below average. India and Japan will need substantial imports.

U. S. wheat supply 1952-53 totals 1,575 million bus. Domestic disappearance estimated by BAE, 690 million bus., and, if exports total 325 million bus., carry-over next July would be about 560 million bus.

In view of world supply U.S. exports expected to drop to 300 to 350 million bus. this year compared with 474 million in 1951-52.

U.S. sales under International Wheat Agreement, December 17-23, amounted to 2,401,000 bus. wheat (including 220,753 cwt. flour in wheat equivalent). Principal buyers were India, Netherlands and U.K. Cumulative U.S. sales under 1952-53 quotas since June 25, 1952, 141,155,000 bus.

PM Commodity Offices (except Minneapolis) report following sales week ended December 31 for domestic use or export, from inventories acquired under price support operations: corn, 875,304 bus.; wheat, 1,800 bus.; barley, 37,417 bus.; edible dry beans, 473 cwt.; Austrian winter peas, 3,170 cwt.; clover seed, 420 lbs.; corn screenings, 1,595 cwt.

Support of 1953-crop dry edible beans at prices designed to encourage balanced production by classes of beans, announced January 5 by USDA. Support level will reflect national average price to growers of about 87% of December 1952 parity price. Support level some classes will be same as for 1952 crop, others slightly higher or lower, based on supply and expected needs.

PRODUCTION OF 19 KINDS OF SEEDS FOR HAY, PASTURE, LAWN,
AND WINTER COVER CROPS IN 1952 TOTALED 445.1 MILLION LBS.,
38% MORE THAN IN 1951, AND 22% ABOVE 1941-50 AVERAGE. OF
TOTAL, 71% WERE WINTER COVER CROP SEEDS.

EXPORTS-IMPORTS

Farm products exported by U.S. during October, 1952 valued at \$263.7 million 17% over September, but 25% below October, 1951. Wheat and products led with value of \$66.4 million; cotton, \$61 million; tobacco, \$26.2 million.

Month's exports reflected large reductions from a year earlier in shipments of cotton, pork, tobacco, and soybean oil, and substantial reductions of butter, dried eggs, apples, prunes, grain sorghums, white potatoes and canned vegetables. Exports of nonfat dry milk solids, beef, veal, lard, tallow, raisins, currants, barley, corn, rice and dry beans showed large increase.

Imports of agricultural products during month valued at \$371.5 million, mostly coffee, sugar, rubber and products not produced commercially in U.S.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

CCC offers to sell following commodities acquired under price support operations, to domestic buyers at specific prices during January, 1953: nonfat dry milk solids, raw linseed oil, refined cottonseed oil, olive oil, dry edible beans, Austrian winter peas, flaxseed, wheat, oats, barley (Campagna), corn, grain sorghums, and 13 types of field seeds. These products also available for export at domestic prices.

Commodities available for export at specific export prices during January: cottonseed oil, raw linseed oil, dry edible beans, Austrian winter peas, wheat, oats, barley (Campagna), and corn.

FATS AND OILS

U.S. exports of lard and rendered pork fat during October totaled 21,522 short tons, an increase of 6,618 tons over October, 1951. Principal buyers were Western Germany, Cuba, Netherlands, Peru, Yugoslavia and Mexico.

Lard exports in the January-October period estimated 271,377 tons, compared with 265,118 tons in same 1951 months. With production high and prices lowest in a decade, exports in calendar 1952 may approximate 344,253 tons exported in 1951.

SUGAR DISTRIBUTION BY PRIMARY DISTRIBUTORS IN THE
CONTINENTAL U.S. JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 27, 1952,
TOTALED 7,993,163 SHORT TONS. THIS COMPARES WITH 7,736,573
TONS DURING CALENDAR 1951, AND 8,279,330 TONS IN 1950.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES

Farm prices declined 8 points (3%) during the month ended December 15, '52, to 269% of the 1910-14 average, BAE reports. At this date prices farmers received for their products were 12% below a year earlier and lowest in two years. Month's drop due to lower prices for hogs, cattle, eggs, milk and cotton.

In same period, index of prices paid by farmers remained unchanged at 281% of the 1910-14 base, and 1% below December 15, 1951. The parity ratio declined to 96 in mid-December, lowest since April, 1950.

Here are average prices received by farmers in mid-December for major midwest crops, compared with parity prices: wheat, \$2.12 and \$2.43; corn, \$1.50 and \$1.77; oats, 84.2¢ and 93.5¢ per bu.; flaxseed, \$3.75 and \$4.64; soybeans, \$2.75 and \$2.81; beef cattle, \$19.70 and \$20.70 per cwt.; hogs, \$16 and \$21 per cwt.; lambs, \$19.50 and \$22.70 cwt.

All chickens, live, 26.4¢ and 31.8¢ per lb.; eggs, 46.6¢ and 50.2¢ per doz. butterfat, 70.1¢ and 75¢ per lb., milk, wholesale, \$5.19 was at 100% of parity; potatoes, \$1.99 and \$1.72 per bu.; apples, \$3.10 and \$2.78 per bu. Except for last three, major Midwest farm products were selling below parity.

POULTRY

USDA bought 870,000 lbs. frozen ready-to-cook 1952 crop turkeys on Dec. 31 and 320,000 lbs. on Jan. 6, under surplus removal program for distribution to non-profit school lunches. Total purchases under program 48,046,118 lbs.

November production: liquid eggs, 6,045,000 lbs.; dried eggs, 957,000 lbs.; frozen eggs, 4,503,000 lbs. Dried egg output included: dried whole egg, 185,000 lbs.; dried albumen, 611,000 lbs., yolk, 161,000 lbs. Liquid egg disposition: immediate consumption, 362,000 lbs.; for drying, 1,180,000 lbs.; balance frozen.

Increases in some fees charged by USDA for services performed in grading, grade labeling, and supervision of packaging of eggs and egg products, are proposed by Department. Higher fees would not apply to grading of large lots of shell eggs. Interested persons may submit comments or suggestions to Poultry Branch, PMA, USDA, Washington, D.C., not later than Feb. 5.

SINCE PEARL HARBOR U.S. FARMERS HAVE INCREASED THEIR USE OF POWER AND MACHINERY MORE THAN 60%. PRINCIPAL MACHINES ON FARMS IN 1952 WERE: TRACTORS, 4.2 MILLION, TRUCKS, 2.4 MILLION; MILKING MACHINES, 686,000; COMBINES, 887,000; MECHANICAL CORN PICKERS, 588,000.

DAIRY

USDA butter purchases for price support since November 28: Grade A, 13,058,556 lbs.; Grade B, 5,379,347 lbs. Cheese purchases 3,193,455 lbs.

Recent USDA Milk Market Order actions: Approved changes in supply-demand adjustment and other provisions Toledo, Ohio order; announced hearing January 22 at Rock Island, Ill. to consider enlarging marketing area, changing location differentials and providing for pricing non-Grade A milk in Quad Cities' area; hearing at Dayton, Ohio, January 6 to consider milk price and other changes in Dayton-Springfield, Ohio order.

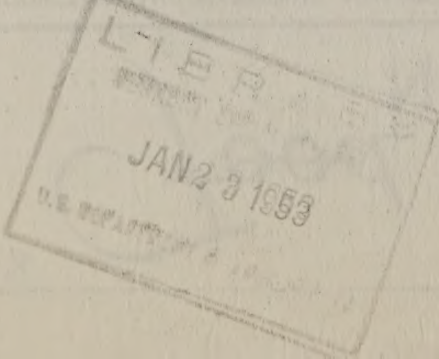
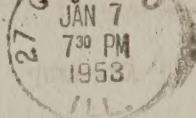
Recommended increases in Class I (fluid milk) price differentials for Fort Wayne Ind. order; postponed until March 24 hearing at Rochester, Minn. on proposal to establish federal order in 40 county area in Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota.

USDA has issued new Standards for grades of Swiss cheese, to become effective Fed. 5, 1953. Revision of tentative standards in use since 1944. Complete new standards printed in Jan. 6 Federal Register.

MEAT PRODUCTION UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION IN THE NEW YEAR HOLIDAY WEEK ENDED JANUARY 3 ESTIMATED 321 MILLION LBS., 15% ABOVE PRECEDING WEEK, AND 4% MORE THAN IN CORRESPONDING WEEK YEAR AGO. SLAUGHTER ALL SPECIES UP EXCEPT HOGS. OUTPUT INCLUDED (MILLION LBS.): BEEF, 125.9; VEAL, 8.8; PORK, 175.2; LAMB AND MUTTON, 10.9.

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January 21, 1953

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LIVESTOCK AND MEATS

OUTLOOK: Pork production in 1953 may drop 12 to 15% below 1951 and 1952 if farmers adhere to December 1 intentions to have 13% fewer hogs farrow this spring than 1 year ago. But BAE expects beef production to continue upward this year., based on estimate that cattle and calf numbers on U.S. farms increased 5 million during 1952. Assuming average grazing and feed conditions, 1953 cattle slaughter may be up 15%. This will probably offset reduced pork output and total meat production expected same as this year.

Meat production in U.S. commercial plants (inspected and other, except farm slaughter), amounted to 19,184 million pounds first 11 months of 1952, about 850 million lbs. more than in same period 1951. Production, and percent increase over 1951 (mill. lbs.): beef, 8,484, up 8%; veal, 982, up 9%; pork, 9,145, up less than 1%; lamb and mutton, 573, up 23%.

GRAINS

U. S. sales under International Wheat Agreement January 7 through 13, confirmed by CCC, amounted to 2,939,000 bus. (including 198,721 cwt. flour in wheat equivalent). Cumulative U.S. sales under 1952-53 quotas, 146,970,000 bus. Principal importing countries India, U.K., and Italy.

PMA Commodity Offices report following sales week ended January 15, for export or domestic use, from inventories acquired under price support operations: corn, 891,199 bus.; oats, 987 bus.; wheat, 115,383 bus.; barley, 24,929 bus.; edible dry beans, 1,100 cwt.; Austrian winter peas, 3,404 cwt.; corn screenings, 2,157 cwt.; clover seed, 1,085 lbs. For export, cottonseed oil, 500,000 lbs. New York Office bought 20,000 bus. barley for foreign supply program.

EACH YEAR U.S. FARMERS NEED 7 MILLION TONS OF STEEL (MORE THAN NEEDED FOR ANNUAL OUTPUT OF PASSENGER AUTOMOBILES); 50 MILLION TONS OF CHEMICAL MATERIALS, 16.5 BILLION GALLONS CRUDE PETROLEUM, (MORE THAN USED BY ANY OTHER INDUSTRY), 320 MILLION LBS. CRUDE RUBBER (EQUAL TO TIRES FOR 6 MILLION AUTOS), AND 15 BILLION KILOWATT HOURS OF ELECTRIC POWER (ENOUGH TO SUPPLY CHICAGO, DETROIT, BALTIMORE AND HOUSTON USERS FOR A YEAR).

PLENTIFUL FOODS-FEBRUARY

Cabbage and raisins lead PMA's list of plentiful foods for February. Cabbage supplies expected large due to big crop winter cabbage and ample storage holdings from fall of 1952. Raisin output last year, 295,000 tons, puts this food in plentiful class.

Other February plentiful: fresh and processed oranges and grapefruit, eggs, heavy turkeys, butter, cheddar and cottage cheese, buttermilk, nonfat milk solids, peanuts and peanut butter, dry baby lima and pea beans, carrots, lettuce, domestic dried figs, tree nuts, edible fats and oils, and frozen fish.

POULTRY

Cold storage holdings December 31, 1952, (million lbs.): all poultry, 277.4; broilers, 4.5; fryers, 12.8; roasters, 6.9; fowl, 58.4; turkeys, 145.4; ducks, 9.3; miscellaneous, 9.6; unclassified, 30.4. Holdings year ago, 302 million lbs., and average for date, 271 million lbs.

Poultry certified under federal inspection during November amounted to 107,844,000 lbs., more than 13 million lbs. above November 1951. Of total 88,544,000 lbs. were eviscerated for sale, 19,340,000 for canning. Quantity canned or used in canning during month, 19,983,000 lbs., was record for month and 10.1 million lbs. above November 1951.

USDA's purchases of turkeys under current removal program totaled 120,000 lbs. January 16, to bring total acquisitions under program to 48,166,118 lbs.

EMPLOYMENT ON U.S. FARMS AT END OF DECEMBER REACHED SEASONAL LOW POINT OF 6,485,000 WORKERS, LOWEST OF RECORD, 1% LESS THAN YEAR AGO. FAMILY WORKERS NUMBERED 5,637,000, 1% LESS THAN YEAR AGO: HIRED WORKERS TOTALED 848,000, 1% MORE.

Outgoing administration of USDA reported last week that more permanent soil and water conservation measures were applied to nation's farms in 1952 than any previous year: over million farmers active in 2,404 soil conservation districts; over two million participated in PMA conservation program.

NET CHANGES IN COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS DURING DECEMBER 1952

Cooler Commodities	Holdings Dec. 31	Net Change during Dec.	Freezer Commodities	Holdings Dec. 31	Net Change during Dec.
	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.		1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
Apples	969,504	- 227,664	Fruits	290,617	- 25,140
Pears	75,900	- 33,650	Vegetables	536,504	- 33,470
Dried & ev.ft.	38,681	+ 4,641	Cream	22,682	- 9,729
Nuts & nutmeats	77,407	+ 22,081	Cream'y butter	72,418	- 9,839
Cheese	236,833	- 5,676	Eggs	50,497	- 21,965
Shell Eggs	7,020	- 10,665	Poultry	287,073	- 7,351
Bried Eggs	3,973	- 342	Beef	265,155	+ 43,442
Beef	10,671	+ 1,165	Pork	355,450	+ 186,758
Pork	152,641	+ 1,690	Sausage	8,928	+ 1,784
Sausage	9,323	+ 339	Lamb & mutton	22,631	+ 5,051
Canned meats	37,347	+ 9,453	Veal	25,175	+ 4,088
Lard & pork fat	117,682	+ 31,757	Edible Offal	71,103	+ 11,963
Other	565,810	- 123,890	Other	409,944	- 10,466
Total	2,302,792	- 330,761	Total	2,418,177	+ 135,126

Occupancy: cooler, 64%; freezers, 78%. Cooler stocks down 13% from November 30, freezer weights up 6%. Despite record December net withdrawals, frozen vegetable stocks were record for December 31. Turkey holdings, 145 million lbs. were record for date. Total red meats in store, 958.4 million lbs., are year-end record.

FATS AND OILS

Bargain counter prices of lard, inedible tallow and greases have made U.S. animal fats a "best buy" in world markets. January-October U.S. exports of these commodities totaled 311,404 tons, half again as much as exported in same 1951 period, and new record volume. Volume for whole year may reach 400,000 tons.

ORDERS FOR HAY FROM FARMERS IN DROUGHT AREAS OF 11

SOUTHERN STATES UNDER DROUGHT EMERGENCY PROGRAM TO TALED 542,411

TONS THROUGH JANUARY 16, CHICAGO PMA COMMODITY OFFICE REPORTS.

SHIPMENTS FROM 5 MIDWEST STATES NOW AMOUNT TO 430,548 TONS.

DAIRY

Price support purchases by USDA through January 16: butter, Grade A, 24,352,716 lbs.; Grade B, 9,613,524 lbs.; cheese, 6,941,863 lbs.; spray nonfat dry milk solids, 66,741,823 lbs.; roller nonfat milk solids 391,670 lbs.

USDA announced January 16 that 24 million lbs. butter acquired through price support purchases will be donated for distribution through non-profit school lunch programs and to other eligible outlets. Department has requested bids for printing and repackaging this butter. Distribution will start in February.

Dairy stocks in cold storage January 1 (in 1,000 lbs): fluid cream, 17,783; plastic cream, 2,899; condensed milk bulk, 10,900; evaporated and condensed milk, case goods, 80,586; creamery butter, 72,418; American cheddar cheese, 204,224; Swiss, including block, 12,454; all other varieties, 20,155; all dairy stocks, 309,251.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Merchantable stocks of Irish potatoes in hands of growers and local dealers January 1 (36 late and intermediate states and Arizona), amounted to 113,370,000 bus. compared with 93,905,000 year earlier.

Same date onion stocks in cold and common storage, held by growers and dealers totaled 7,230,000 sacks, compared with 8,169,000 sacks in same positions Jan. 1, '52.

USDA RESEARCH HAS DEVELOPED NEW WAY TO MANUFACTURE

POWDERED ORANGE JUICE. NEW PRODUCT STORES WELL UNDER

SEVERE CONDITIONS AND MAKES AN ATTRACTIVE FRESH-FLAVORED

BEVERAGE WHEN RECONSTITUTED WITH WATER. ARMY QUARTERMASTER

HAS PROCURED SMALL TRIAL SUPPLY FOR TESTING PURPOSES. NOT

YET AVAILABLE COMMERCIALY.

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January 27, 1953

GRAINS

Stocks in all positions, January 1, 1953:

Wheat, 1,103 million bus., 29% above year earlier, and second largest in 18 years of comparable record. Stocks in interior mills, elevators and warehouses, 311 million bus., were record; terminals, 259 million bus. second largest; merchant mills, 128 million bus.; on farms, 399 million bus., third largest.

Rye, 9.2 million bus., about 6.5 million less than year ago, and smallest reserve for date since 1947.

Corn, 2,576 million bus., 9% above year ago, and third largest for January 1 in 10 years of record. Exceeded only in 1950 and 1951. Farm stocks 2,173 million bus., largest since 1950. Terminals held 62 million bus.; interior mills, elevators and warehouses, 97 million bus.; and CCC stocks in agency bins, 244 million bus. Disappearance, October 1-January 1, 1953, 912 million bus., 5% less than average and much below that of past three years.

Oats, 865 million bus., about average for 9 years of comparable record, but 5% less than year earlier. Stocks on farms, 792 million bus.; off-farms, 73 million bus., exceeded only on January 1, 1946.

Barley, 164 million bus., smallest in 10 years of record, reflecting small 1952 production. However, stocks in interior mills, elevators and warehouses about average. Sorghum grain, 54 million bus., smallest in 8 years of record, and reflecting small 1952 output. Only stocks of January 1, 1946 and 1948 lower.

PMA Commodity offices report following sales last week from inventories acquired under price support, for domestic use or export; corn, 1,448,118 bus.; wheat, 14,268 bus.; barley, 26,004 bus.; Austrian winter peas, 1,600 cwt. New York office bought 20,000 bus. barley for export under foreign supply program.

Stocks of dry beans in commercial storages January 1, 1953 totaled 10.1 million bags (cleaned basis), about 20% less than a year ago. All major classes except Standard Limas show reductions. Pintos down sharply. Stocks on farms amounted to 1.9 million bags (uncleaned basis), about same as year ago.

CCC IS REQUESTING OFFERS OF CERTIFIED SEED COWPEAS AND GRAIN SORGHUMS FOR IMMEDIATE SHIPMENT. OFFERS, UNDER FORM CRT-205 AND OFFER FORM, GRO-239, SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BEFORE 5 P.M., EST, FEBRUARY 3, TO PROCUREMENT AND SALES DIVISION, GRAIN BRANCH, PMA, USDA, WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

FRUITS

Revised standards for pineapples, effective February 23, will require that pineapples in each grade be of similar varietal characteristics, and that tops in each grade be of characteristic color.

Applications under raisin export program dropped to 197 tons week ended January 16. Cumulative totals approved for export through January 16 amount to 81,586 tons, with USDA payment obligations, \$4,200,874.

Declarations for exports under grapefruit and orange export program, received by USDA in week ending January 17 include: fresh oranges, 6,990 boxes; fresh grapefruit, 2,100 boxes; single strength and blended juices, 46,407 cases (24/2's); concentrated juices, 4,751 gal.; grapefruit sections and fruit salad, 410 cases.

Applications approved under honey export payment program through January 16 total 19,649,462 lbs., entailing payments to exporters of \$884,226. Producers had placed 7,021,681 lbs. honey under price support loans and 2,981,839 lbs. under purchase agreements through January 15.

LIVESTOCK AND MEATS

Cattle on feed on U. S. farms January 1, 1953, numbered 5,836,000 head, largest number on record, and 16% greater than January 1, 1952. Average for date, 1947-51 is 4,349,000 head.

BAE estimated per capita U. S. consumption of red meats and poultry meat in 1952 as follows: beef, 61.5 lbs.; veal, 7.1 lbs.; lamb and mutton, 4.1 lbs.; pork, 72.5 lbs.; poultry meat, 35.1 lbs. Total red meats, 145 lbs.

With beef production going up, pork and lamb and mutton expected down. Agency estimates 1953 per capita consumption at: beef, 68 lbs., veal, 8 lbs.; lamb and mutton, 3.8 lbs., pork, 62 lbs. Total red meats, 141.8 lbs. Poultry meat, 35.7 lbs.

MEAT PRODUCTION UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION WEEK ENDED JANUARY 24 ESTIMATED 394 MILLION LBS., DOWN 5% FROM PRECEDING WEEK, BUT 10% ABOVE SAME WEEK IN 1952. SLAUGHTER ALL SPECIES EXCEPT HOGS ABOVE YEAR AGO. OUTPUT INCLUDED, (MILLION LBS.): BEEF, 168.3; VEAL, 10.6; PORK, 200.1; LAMB AND MUTTON, 15.0.

POULTRY

U.S. turkey growers plan to reduce production 8% in 1953 from the record 1952 crop of 58.9 million birds, USDA reports. Based on reported growers' intentions 1953 crop would total about 54 million. It's first cutback indicated since 1948. Attributed to record cold storage holdings and low prices.

Growers received average of 34.5¢ per lb. for turkeys marketed in 1952, about 3¢ less per lb. than in 1951, and lowest since 1945.

USDA bought 270,000 lbs. frozen ready-to-cook turkeys January 22 under surplus removal program, to bring total purchases to 48,436,118 lbs. Tuesday, January 27, was final offer date under this program. Department's purchases under program amount to around 6% of estimated 770 million lb. 1952 turkey production (eviscerated basis).

Hatchery production of chicks continued at record levels during December, 1952. Month's output, 94,260,000, was 8% above year earlier, and 90% greater than 1946-50 December average. About 10% more chicks placed in principal broiler areas than December 1951. Large January hatch in prospect, with eggs in incubators January 1, 6% above year earlier.

Preliminary estimate chicks hatched during 1952, 1,725,347,000, about 57.5 million less than 1951. Placements in broiler areas estimated 585,042,000, up 6% from 1951.

* * * *

FATS AND OILS

Supply of peanuts in commercial positions December 31 totaled 1,028 million lbs., farmers' stock equivalent basis, 10% less than year earlier, and lowest for date since 1949. Stocks included: farmers' stock, 862 million lbs., down 14%; shelled edible grade, 157 million lbs., 27% larger than year ago, and largest since 1947; cleaned, for roasting, 10 million lbs., and lowest since 1942.

TO ENLARGE MARKET OUTLETS FOR PEANUTS, USDA RESEARCHERS HAVE DEVELOPED "PEANUT SNACK" AND "PEANUT SPREAD," NEW PEANUT BUTTER PRODUCTS. BOTH FOODS FAVORABLY RECEIVED BY CONSUMERS IN MARKETING EXPERIMENT IN GEORGIA. FORMULAS AVAILABLE FREE. COPIES OF PUBLICATION "PEANUT SNACK AND PEANUT SPREAD: POTENTIAL NEW PRODUCTS" AVAILABLE, OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES, PMA, USDA, WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

* * *

DAIRY

Dairy product purchases for price support through January 23; butter, Grade A, 29,263,187 lbs.; Grade B, 13,208,933 lbs.; cheese, 9,255,007 lbs.; spray nonfat milk solids, 72,480,095 lbs. CCC has contracted for repackaging of 1,268,000 lbs. spray nonfat solids into 25 lb. export cans at 3.49¢ per lb.

Stocks of evaporated and condensed milk held by wholesale grocers December 31, 1952: evaporated, 32.1 million lbs.; condensed, 411,000 lbs. Stocks represent 26 day supply, 527 firms reporting.

John J. Million, South Bend, Ind., named acting administrator of the South Bend-LaPorte milk marketing order. Replaces Ralph R. Plummer, deceased.

* * *

VEGETABLES

Stocks of merchantable potatoes held in storage by growers and local dealers January 1 estimated 113.4 million bus., 11% smaller than 1942-51 average stocks for that date, but 21% greater than stocks in storage January 1, 1952.

Growers in late and intermediate States expected to plant 1,202,000 acres, 4% more than in 1952.

* * *

FARM REAL ESTATE PRICES SHOWED NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN 4 MONTHS ENDING NOVEMBER 1, FIRST PERIOD SINCE OUTBREAK IN KOREA THAT LAND PRICES DID NOT RISE ON NATIONAL AVERAGE BASIS. U.S. INDEX AT 213 (1912-14=100), WAS SAME AS JULY, 1952, AND 3% ABOVE YEAR EARLIER. DECLINING PRICES OF FARM COMMODITIES AND DRY WEATHER SOME AREAS MAJOR FACTORS IN CHECKING RISE.

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MIDWESTERN AREA - OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
623 S. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS.

February 4, 1953

AGRICULTURAL PRICES

The Index of prices received by farmers for their products declined another 2 points (nearly 1%) to 267 percent of the 1910-14 average (100) in the month ended January 15, BAE reports. Prices for dairy products, truck crops, eggs, grains and cotton dropped and were only partially offset by better prices for hogs, calves, sheep, lambs, potatoes, and some fruits.

In the same period the Index of Prices Paid by farmers, including taxes, interest, and wages, rose 2 points to 282 of the 1910-14 average (100), about 7 points less than the high of 289 reached in May, 1952.

Current level of Prices Received Index at 267 compares with the high point of 313 reached in February, 1951. As a result of the changes in the month, the Parity Ratio declined to 95, 1 point under December 15.

U.S. EXPORTED \$270 MILLION WORTH OF FARM PRODUCTS DURING NOVEMBER, 35% BELOW NOVEMBER YEAR EARLIER, FIFTH MONTH IN ROW AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS HAVE BEEN BELOW YEAR AGO. AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS VALUED AT \$290 MILLION, 23% LESS THAN YEAR EARLIER.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

CCC offers to sell following commodities for domestic use during February at specific prices: butter, nonfat dry milk solids, cheddar cheese, raw linseed oil, refined cottonseed oil, cottonseed meal, olive oil, dry edible beans, Austrian winter peas, flaxseed, wheat, oats, barley, corn, grain sorghums, and 14 varieties of cover crop seeds.

Available to exporters at specific export prices are: cottonseed oil, raw linseed oil, dry edible beans, Austrian winter peas, wheat, oats, barley, and corn. All commodities available for domestic sale are also eligible for export sale at domestic prices listed.

CCC OWNED \$1,053 MILLION WORTH OF FARM PRODUCTS ACQUIRED THROUGH PRICE SUPPORT OPERATIONS, ON DECEMBER 31, 1952: HAD INVESTED \$1,399 MILLION IN PRICE SUPPORT LOANS ON 1952 CROPS. LOSS DURING LAST SIX MONTHS OF 1952 \$15.6 MILLION.

LIVESTOCK AND MEATS

Production of meat in U.S. commercial plants (except farm slaughter), during 1952 estimated 21,386 million lbs., about 1.2 billion lbs. more than in 1951. The 1952 output included (in million lbs.): beef, 9,341; veal, 1,086; pork, 10,324; lamb and mutton, 635. Lard production amounted to 2,613 million lbs.

Livestock numbers slaughtered in 1952 (million head): cattle, 17.9; calves, 8.9; hogs, 77.7; sheep and lambs, 14.

During 1952 following quantities of meats, meat products and by-products were graded or certified as complying with specifications by USDA: (million lbs.): beef, 8,780; veal and calf, 1,025; lamb, yearling and mutton, 567; all other meats and lard, 158. Total, 10,530 million lbs., compares with 7,464 million lbs. in 1951. Grading of beef, veal, calf, lamb and mutton became compulsory under OPS regulations May 7, 1951. Requirements for lamb and mutton rescinded October, 1952.

Meat production under Federal inspection week ended January 31 was 357 million pounds, 10 per cent under previous week, 2 per cent above year ago. Production by types (million pounds): beef, 161; veal, 10.4; pork, 171; lamb and mutton, 14.2. Lowest point since holiday season. Low prices held back cattle shipments; hog shipments going into seasonal decline.

CITRUS PURCHASES

Consumers bought 7.3 million boxes of oranges in all forms during December, 20% above year earlier. Approximately half of oranges were bought as fresh fruit, 3.6 million boxes, with 2.8 million boxes bought in form of frozen concentrated juice, and 900,000 boxes as canned single strength juice. In same month, consumers bought almost 1.6 million boxes of grapefruit as fresh fruit and 808,000 as canned single-strength juice. Purchases of lemons and lemon products during month amounted to 190,000 boxes as fresh fruit, 50,000 boxes as lemon juice, 21,000 boxes as lemonade concentrate.

GRAINS

U.S. exported nearly 245 million bu. of grain during last six months of 1952, including 150 million bu. of wheat. Total was 60 million bu. less than in same period of 1951, with decrease in wheat shipments; coarse grain exports increased over year earlier.

PMA Commodity Offices sold following commodities during week ended January 29; corn, 1,552,302 bu.; wheat, 35,078 bu.; barley, 16,688 bu.; oats, 2,836 bu.; beans, 115,090 cwt.; Austrian winter peas, 3,750 cwt.; clover seed, 500 lbs.; corn screenings, 246 tons.

U.S. sales under International Wheat Agreement January 21-27 amounted to 3,678,000 bu. including 259,202 cwt. of flour. Principal buyers were Japan, U.K., and India. U.S. has sold approximately 153 million bu. under 1952-3 quota, with 100 million bu. remaining.

* * *

PRODUCTION OF OLEOMARGARINE IN 1952: 1,271,519,000 LBS.

PRODUCTION OF CREAMERY BUTTER IN 1952: 1,205,700,000 LBS.

FIRST YEAR MARGARINE PRODUCTION HAS EXCEEDED BUTTER.

* * *

POULTRY

USDA has completed purchase program on frozen, ready-to-cook turkeys intended to bolster prices to producers. Total purchases, 48,435,461 lbs., at total cost of \$26,113,335. Turkeys being distributed to school lunch programs and institutional outlets.

Federal poultry grading and inspection regulations will be amended effective March 6 to give PMA greater discretion in deciding which firms are eligible to receive grading and inspection services and to reduce size of samples from each lot of poultry.

Liquid egg production in December totaled 6,579,000 lbs., almost three times production year earlier, but only half of 1946-50 average production for month. Production of dried eggs in December, 685,000 lbs.

* * *

HONEY

U.S. honey production in 1952 totaled 272.8 million lbs., 6% above 1951, 23% above 1946-50 average. Produced by 5.5 million colonies, with production per colony 49.5 lbs., highest since 1941. On December 15, producers held about 77 million lbs., with 10 million lbs. under price support.

* * *

DAIRY

Price support purchases by USDA through January 30: butter, Grade A, 35,832,981 lbs.; Grade B, 16,418,285 lbs.; cheese, 11,821,975 lbs.; spray milk solids, 80,564,176 lbs.

* * *

CHICAGO MARKET DURING 1952 RECEIVED 80,000 CARS FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, THREE-FOURTHS BY RAIL: 90 DIFFERENT COMMODITIES FROM 43 STATES 16 FOREIGN COUNTRIES. RECEIPTS 5% BELOW 1951.

* * *

FATS AND OILS

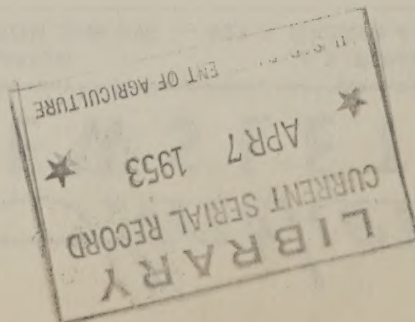
Stocks of soybeans January 1 totaled 224 million bu., second largest on record, 4 million above year ago. 82 million bu. on farms, 80 million at processing plants.

Stocks of flaxseed January 1 totaled 27 million bu., 6% below year earlier, 40% below high of 1950.

* * *

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February 11, 1953

FEDERAL MEAT GRADING

Although CPS price controls on meats ended February 6 and Federal grading of meat is again on a voluntary basis, requests for Federal grading from large and small packers continues strong and there are indications that these services will be in great demand in the future by both trade and consumers.

Federal grades stamped on meat by highly trained civil service employees, enable consumers and the trade to buy and sell meat on the basis of uniform quality standards recognized throughout U.S. Service is available on voluntary basis to slaughterers and others meeting minimum sanitary and inspection requirements and is self-supporting through fees paid by users.

Starting February 10, new grade stamp will be used on all Federally graded beef, veal, calf, lamb and mutton. New stamp is a shield, enclosing "USDA" and the grade name "Prime," "Choice," "Good," etc. Stamp will continue to be applied in ribbon form on all wholesale and most retail cuts, with harmless purple vegetable dye. Unauthorized use of new stamp now prohibited under law.

* * *

GRAIN

CCC has announced immediate reduction in amount of corn to be sold out of government stocks stored in bins or country elevators. Corn will be sold on open market only if it has deteriorated below Grade 5 or if it must be moved from present storage and space cannot be found in commercial warehouses.

Government of South Africa has ordered several million bushels of top-graded old corn from CCC, to be used for human food; CCC corn preferred because of low moisture content, better able to maintain quality in high temperatures.

PMA Commodity Offices report following sales in week ended February 5, for domestic use or export, from inventories acquired under price support: corn, 1,379,628 bus.; wheat, 102,711 bus.; barley, 15,721 bus.; oats, 6,885 bus.; rye, 570 bus.; dry edible beans, 1,700 cwt.; Austrian winter peas, 300 cwt.; clover seed, 3,960 lbs.; corn screenings, 108 tons.

U.S. sales under International Wheat Agreement, confirmed by CCC January 28-February 3 inc., totaled 9,163,000 bus., (including 259,634 cwt. flour in wheat equivalent). Principal buyers UK, Austria, Germany, and Mexico. Cumulative U.S. sales, 1952-53 quotas, 162,641,000 bus.

* * *

CONTINUED OPERATION OF EMERGENCY PROGRAM TO SUPPLY
HAY TO DROUGHT AREAS, ANNOUNCED FEBRUARY 9 BY AGRICULTURE
SECRETARY BENSON AS ADDITIONAL ALLOCATION OF \$1.5 MILLION
MADE TO PROGRAM FROM FEDERAL DISASTER FUNDS. ORDERS FOR
HAY FROM DROUGHT AREAS TOTLED 543,251 TONS THROUGH
FEBRUARY 6. HAY SHIPMENTS FROM MIDWEST AGGREGATE 512,000
TONS, WITH 14,000 TONS FROM CANADIAN POINTS.

* * *

SUGAR

World sugar production 1952-53 is expected to total 36.7 million tons, raw value, about 4% less than year earlier, but well above prewar average. Production in North America expected to drop 15% from 1951-52, with a 29% reduction in Cuba accounting for most of decline. Increases are expected for Asia, 5%; South America, 4%; Africa, 5%; and Oceania, 22%.

Cuba, chief U.S. source of supply, is reducing 1952-53 crop by about 2.2 million tons. However, large carryover from the 1951-52 crop will make Cuban supplies for calendar 1953 about equal to 1952.

U.S. domestic per capita consumption in 1952 now estimated at 95.0 lbs., refined value, compared with 95.5 lbs. in 1951.

* * *

PRICE SUPPORT

U.S. farmers placed 376,430,000 bus. wheat and over 170 million bus. corn from 1952 crops under price support loans or purchase agreements through January 15.

Price support was available on 1952-crop wheat up to February 1. Record amount placed under support was in the 1942-43 season -- 408 million bus. Through January a year ago, 210,365,422 bus. from the 1951 crop were placed under support.

Of corn under support January 15, Iowa led with 77.8 million bus.; Illinois, 21.9 million bus.; Nebraska, 21.7 million bus.; Minnesota, 16.4 million bus.; Missouri and Indiana, about 7.5 million bus. each.

* * *

DAIRY

Secretary of Agriculture Benson has invited 13 dairy industry leaders representing both producer and processor organizations, to meet with USDA officials in Washington February 17, to discuss problems facing dairy industry, particularly those relating to price support, and restrictions on foreign imports.

Price support purchases through February 6: butter, Grade A, 41,490,788 lbs.; Grade B, 19,886,307 lbs.; cheese, 14,722,864 lbs.; spray milk solids, 89,996,883 lbs.

USDA has issued following total cheese import authorizations under Defense Food Order 3 for period July 1, 1952 through June 30, 1953: Cheddar, 9,746,470 lbs.; Blue Mold, 3,999,563 lbs.; Edam and Gouda, 4,576,947 lbs.; Cheese containing or processed in whole or in part from Cheddar or Blue Mold 210,164 lbs.; Italian varieties, made from cow's milk, 9,158,059 lbs. The totals reflect nearly all of quotas for the year.

* * *

FATS AND OILS

USDA forecasts U.S. production of fats and oils in the year which began October 1, 1952 at 12.1 billion lbs., only slightly below past two years, third highest of record.

Output will include (in million lbs.): butter, 1,475; lard and rendered pork fat, 2,625; edible beef fats, 180; corn oil, 235; cottonseed oil, 1,700; olive oil, 5; peanut oil, 30; soybean oil, 2,800; linseed oil, 575; tung oil, 30; castor oil, 15; other fats and oils, 25.

Expected domestic disappearance of fats for food uses 6.9 billion lbs., about 43.5 lbs. per capita, same as last year. Exports may be somewhat below 1951-52 total of 1,425 million lbs. Stocks of food fats October 1, 1953 may be 20% above 768 million lbs. of last October 1, and record for date.

* * *

MEAT PRODUCTION UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION DROPPED TO 333 MILLION LBS. IN WEEK ENDED FEBRUARY 7, SMALLEST OUTPUT SINCE NEW YEAR PERIOD. TOTAL WAS 7% UNDER PRECEDING WEEK AND 6% BELOW SAME WEEK LAST YEAR AS HOG SLAUGHTER DECLINED 20% FROM YEAR AGO. OUTPUT INCLUDED (IN MILLION LBS.): BEEF, 154.0; VEAL, 9.9; PORK, 156.1; LAMB AND MUTTON, 13.4.

* * *

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

To permit more practical application, USDA has announced revision of standards for California and Arizona oranges. Changes requested by California orange industry. Effective March 8.

Effective same date are new Standards for Grades for mustard and turnip greens, replacing those in effect since 1928. New standards provide better basis of trading between producers and dealers in line with present day trade practices.

Fruit Situation, BAE, reports supplies of apples, oranges and grapefruit remaining for market after January 1 were smaller than year earlier; stocks of pears and lemons, larger. Prices of all expected to increase further this winter and spring.

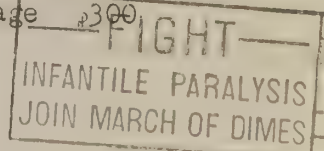
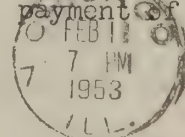
Year end stocks of canned fruits, frozen fruits and fruit juices smaller than year earlier, while stocks of frozen citrus juices were larger. Demand for all fruits continues strong.

* * *

WORLD FOOD SUPPLIES (1952-53) SEASON ARE AT RECORD HIGH LEVELS, OFAR REPORTS. PRODUCTION OF WHEAT, RICE, MEATS AND CITRUS FRUITS EXCEEDS ALL PAST RECORDS, AND OUTPUT OF SUGAR, FATS AND OILS, MILK AND DECIDUOUS FRUITS, HIGH. WITH LARGE CARRYOVER STOCKS, SUGAR SUPPLIES ALSO EXCEED ALL PAST RECORDS.

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[Feb. 18, 1953]

LIVESTOCK AND MEATS

All time record cattle population on U. S. farms established January 1 when Nation's farms and ranches had estimated 93,696,000 head on hand. This was 7%, or 5.9 million head above previous record of January 1, 1952, and 16% above 1942-51 average. Cattle numbers have increased each year since 1949.

Milk cows and heifers, 2 years old or older, numbered 23,996,000, up 3% from year earlier, first increase since 1945, but still 7% below 10 year average. Cattle kept primarily for milk production, including heifers and calves, were largest since 1947.

Hog numbers estimated 54,632,000, down 14% from year ago, and 13% under the 10 year average. Lowest hog inventory since 1948.

Sheep on farms and ranches January 1 numbered 27,857,000, down 1% from year ago, and 32% under 1942-51 average. However the January 1 total is 6% above the record low of January 1, 1950.

Almost 79% of all commercial meat production during 1952 was carried out under federal inspection. Total 1952 inspected meat output, (In million lbs.): beef, 7,157; veal, 651; pork, 8,411; lamb and mutton, 581. Inspected lard production amounted to 2,225 million lbs.

MEAT PRODUCED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION WEEK ENDED FEBRUARY 14
ESTIMATED 339 MILLION LBS., UP 2% FROM PRECEDING WEEK, BUT
1% UNDER SAME WEEK OF 1952. HOG SLAUGHTER 19% UNDER LAST YEAR,
CATTLE, 27% GREATER. OUTPUT INCLUDED (IN MILLION LBS.): BEEF,
163; VEAL, 10.0; PORK, 152.5; LAMB AND MUTTON, 13.8.

POULTRY

U.S. farm flocks laid 5,441 million eggs during January, record high for month, 1% more than January, 1952, and 22% above the 1942-51 average for month. Rate of production was 14.5 eggs per layer, a record for month, and compares with the average of 11.2 eggs per layer. Laying flock averaged almost 376 million layers during month, 2% less than year earlier. Potential layers on farms February 1 (including pullets not of laying age), numbered 387 million, 4% less than year ago.

Average prices received by farmers in mid-January, compared with year ago: eggs, 45.8¢ and 40.5¢ per doz.; chickens, liveweight, 26.5¢ and 27.4¢ per lb.; turkeys, 33.6¢ and 37.1¢ per lb.

Commercial broiler production in 15 important broiler states totalled 627,462,000 birds in 1952, 8% more than 1951. These states produced about 3/4 of Nation's broilers---about 1,869 million lbs. live weight, valued at \$531.1 million.

PMA MARCH PLENTIFUL FOODS LIST

Beef, and broilers and fryers lead PMA's list of foods expected to be in plentiful supply throughout the Midwest during March. It's the first time beef ever has been rated as a "plentiful". Stocks of beef in cold storage well above average, and cattle numbers on U. S. farms at the all-time record high of 93.7 million head.

Other March plentiful: eggs, turkeys, cabbage, carrots, all dairy products, fresh and processed oranges and grapefruit, honey, raisins, dry lima beans, edible fats and oils, domestic figs, peanuts and peanut butter, and frozen fish fillets.

SINCE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY, FEBRUARY 22 FALLS ON
SUNDAY, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23 IS A LEGAL HOLIDAY AND ALL
USDA OFFICES, INCLUDING MARKET NEWS SERVICES, WILL BE
CLOSED ON THAT DATE.

DROUGHT EMERGENCY PROGRAM

County PMA Committees in five Midwest states completed purchases February 13 filling last orders received for hay from farmers in drought areas of south. Orders totalled about 600,000 tons. Shipments through February 13 amounted to 45,596 cars, about 593,000 tons. Orders for the hay needed to carry dairy and beef herds through winter have stopped as pastures in South begin to "green-up" providing feed.

-2-
COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

Cooler	Holdings	Net Change	Freezer	Holdings	Net Change
Commodities	Jan. 31	During Jan.	Commodities	Jan. 31	during Jan.
	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.		1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
Apples	733,200	-229,728	Fruits	257,775	- 29,220
Pears	45,250	- 29,000	Vegetables	490,569	- 44,364
Dried & ev.fts.	36,767	- 1,807	Cream	16,187	- 6,761
Nuts & nutmeats	100,874	✓ 20,257	Creamery Butter	87,503	✓ 14,780
Cheese	227,333	-11,470	Eggs	34,867	- 15,309
Shell eggs	5,175	- 1,710	Poultry	259,676	- 18,919
Dried eggs	3,648	- 328	Beef	254,686	✓ 3,712
Beef	11,612	✓ 500	Pork	432,807	✓ 91,843
Pork	158,258	✓ 10,070	Sausage	9,968	✓ 534
Sausage	9,747	✓ 534	Lamb & mutton	21,189	- 723
Canned meats	44,221	✓ 7,075	Veal	22,969	-1,244
Other	486,554	-65,391	Edible offal	69,787	✓ 969
			Other	425,934	✓ 29,370
- Total -	- 1,862,639 -	- 300,998 -	- Total -	- 2,383,917 -	- 24,668 -

Occupancy January 31: cooler, 61%, down 3 points and about average; freezer, 79%, one point above 5 year average for date. Total cooler weights reflect seasonal decline. Freezer weights at 2.4 billion lbs. compares with 2.3 billion last year and average 1.9 billion for date. Holdings of all meats were over billion lbs., no record, but 9th time since 1916 that total meats have equalled this mark.

* * *

GRAINS

FMA Commodity Offices report following sales in week ended February 12 for domestic use or export, from inventories acquired under price support operations: wheat, 4,846,366 bus. corn, 974,211 bus.; barley, 28,888 bus.; oats, 12,663 bus.; dry edible beans, 600 cwt.; Austrian winter peas, 700 cwt.; clover seed, 270 lbs.; corn screenings, 109 tons.

Included in wheat total were these major sales for export: Dallas Commodity Office, 4,065,000 bus.; Kansas City, 544,927 bus.; New York, 210,000 bus.

USDA ANNOUNCED PURCHASES FEBRUARY 16 OF 21,000 CWT. RICE FOR THE U.S. ARMY FOR SHIPMENT TO KOREA. DELIVERY TO ARMY AT GULF PORTS LAST HALF OF FEBRUARY. PRICES RANGED FROM \$10.28 TO \$10.30 PER CWT., F.A.S. DELIVERY.

* * *

DAIRY

Milk production on U. S. farms during January amounted to 8.7 billion lbs., highest for month in over 25 years of record. Output was 2% over previous high, January, 1945, and 5% above 1941-50 average for month. However, production in relation to population amounted to only 1.77 lbs. per capita per day--fifth lowest on record for January.

Meanwhile cold storage holdings of creamery butter rose to 88 million lbs. on January 31, first increase ever recorded during month, and stocks were highest of record for date since 1916. American cheese stocks 195 million lbs., also all time high for date.

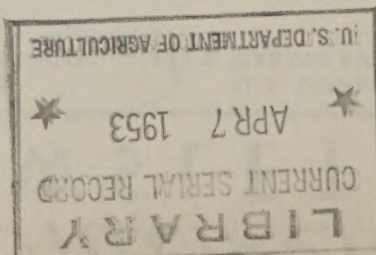
Price support purchases of dairy products through February 13: butter Grade A, 48,447,929 lbs.; butter Grade B, 23,449,772 lbs.; cheese, 18,658,784 lbs.; spray milk solids, 100,345,392 lbs.

* * *

PRODUCTION OF 20 COMMERCIAL VEGETABLE CROPS WHICH FURNISH FRESH SUPPLIES FOR WINTER MONTHS OF 1953, EXPECTED TO TOTAL 1,600,000 TONS, 7% ABOVE PRODUCTION FOR 1952 WINTER SEASON, AND 11% ABOVE THE 1949-51 AVERAGE.

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Food Marketing NEWSLETTER

PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION

MIDWESTERN AREA - OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES --- 623 S. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

February 26, 1953

FARM INCOME

U.S. Farmers realized a net income of \$14.3 billion in 1952, about the same as in 1951. Gross farm income for year, \$37.3 billion, was up 1.5% from 1951 but this was offset by increase of 2%, about a half billion dollars, in production expenses.

Cash receipts from marketings of livestock and livestock products, and crops totaled \$33.1 billion, according to preliminary estimates, compared with \$32.6 billion in 1951. Receipts from marketings in the 12 midwest states are estimated at \$14.4 billion, about 43.5% of cash receipts for farm marketings in all 48 states. This compares with \$14.3 billion for marketings in these 12 states in 1951.

Due to lower average prices and higher costs the net value of 1952 farm production was down 6% although volume of output was 3% above 1951. By increasing marketings 6% farmers maintained their realized income at the 1951 level.

Here are BAE's estimates of cash receipts for farm marketings in 12 Midwest states, compared with 1951:

State	1951 (\$1,000)	1952 (\$1,000)	State	1951 (\$1,000)	1952 (\$1,000)
Ohio	\$ 1,069,871	\$ 1,072,509	Iowa	\$ 2,360,995	\$ 2,328,845
Indiana	1,141,673	1,095,810	Missouri	1,160,372	1,132,590
Illinois	2,027,926	1,999,361	North Dakota	583,835	523,216
Michigan	725,272	743,934	South Dakota	600,607	553,730
Wisconsin	1,127,517	1,142,643	Nebraska	1,153,822	1,159,857
Minnesota	1,287,034	1,300,656	Kansas	1,047,416	1,391,908
			TOTAL	\$14,286,340	\$14,445,059

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED TO PURCHASE MODERATE QUANTITIES OF NEW CORN TO OFFSET ANY EFFECTS THAT MARKETING OF OFF-GRADE CORN NOW IN CCC BINS MAY HAVE ON MARKET PRICES. AGENCY PLANS TO SELL CORN IN DANGER OF SPOILING BEFORE WARM-WEATHER SETS IN. NEW CORN WILL BE BOUGHT IN THE OPEN MARKET. CCC CURRENTLY HAS ABOUT 262.5 MILLION BUS. CORN IN ITS INVENTORY, SOME FROM THE 1948 CROP.

MARKET BASKET

Annual average farm value of 34 farm food products in the "Market Basket" (1935-39 average annual purchases per family of three) dropped to \$353 in 1952, 2% below 1951. December farm value was down to \$331, lowest since November 1950.

Charges for marketing foods in the Basket rose to a record annual average of \$386 in 1952, 7% above 1951. Marketing charges in December were at high of \$400 of Market Basket's total cost of \$731. Farmer's share of the consumer dollar dropped to 45 cents in December, lowest since 1941.

Total retail costs of all goods now consumed by family of three is roughly 60% higher than retail cost of "Market Basket" which does not include fishery products, imported foods, foods of non-farm origin and other important factors, according to BAE.

FATS AND OILS

Production of cottonseed oil 1952 totaled 1,708 million lbs. Of output, 345 million lbs. used for production of margarine, 395 million lbs. for shortening, 494 million lbs. for manufacture of cooking and salad oils, and direct use in bakeries, restaurants and institutions, and 125 million lbs. in non-food products. About 105 million lbs. were exported.

GRAINS

U.S. sales under the International Wheat Agreement February 11 through 17, amounted to 5,924,000 bus. wheat (including 99,793 cwt. flour in wheat equivalent). Cumulative U.S. sales under 1952-53 quotas, 175,420,000 bus. Principal importers last week: Germany, India, Spain and Mexico. Quota for Israel has been filled.

PMA Commodity Offices report following sales last week for domestic use or export, from inventories acquired under price support: corn, 768,398 bus.; wheat, 53,450 bus.; oats, 11,800 bus.; barley, 10,551 bus.; Dry edible beans, 1,115 cwt.; Austrian winter peas, 500 cwt.; clover seed, 150 lbs.

VEGETABLES

USDA has announced production goals for 1953 summer and fall vegetables calling for acreage increase of 1% for summer and decrease of 2% in fall crops.

For 15 major summer vegetables for fresh market, goals total 497,930 acres, up 3,370 acres. Goals for 12 fall vegetables total 260,970 acres, down 4,030 acres from 1952. Goals for three summer melon crops, 383,650 acres. For 9 vegetables for commercial processing, goals are 1,779,460 acres, compared with 1,800,950 in 1952.

POULTRY

Chicks produced by commercial hatcheries during January numbered 127.3 million, 4% more than January, 1952, and compares with 1947-51 January average of 74.8 million. Placements in 11 broiler areas up 4% from year ago, hatchings for farm flock replacement slightly above last year.

Amount of poultry certified under federal inspection in 1952 was 887.7 million lbs., compared with 690.5 in 1951. Of 1952 total, 700.3 million lbs. was certified for evisceration, nearly 175 million lbs. more than year earlier. Balance certified for canning.

* * *

SUGAR

Sugar distribution by primary distributors in continental U.S. for domestic consumption January 1 through February 14, totaled 836,460 tons. Distribution January and February, 1952 amounted to 1,108,008 tons.

"Invisible" supplies of sugar (held by retail and wholesale trade and industrial users) December 31, 1952 estimated 351,569 tons, compared with 402,827 tons year earlier.

* * *

MEAT PRODUCTION UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION IN WEEK ENDED FEBRUARY 21 ESTIMATED 355 MILLION LBS., UP 5% FROM THE PREVIOUS WEEK, AND 14% GREATER THAN CORRESPONDING WEEK IN 1952. HOG SLAUGHTER WAS 7% BELOW LAST YEAR BUT THIS WAS MORE THAN OFFSET BY A 42% INCREASE IN THE CATTLE KILL. OUTPUT INCLUDED (IN MILLION LBS.): BEEF, 178.6; VEAL, 10.5; PORK, 152.2; LAMB AND MUTTON, 13.8.

* * *

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT

The 93.7 million head of cattle on U.S. farms January 1 were valued at \$12 billion, an average of \$128 per head. These figures reflect decline of 28 percent from valuation of January 1, 1952 when total cattle population was 87.8 million, with an average value of \$179 per head.

Total valuation all livestock on farms January 1, 1953 (cattle, hogs, sheep, horses, mules, chickens and turkeys), \$14.9 billion, compared with \$19.6 billion a year earlier.

* * *

DAIRY

Dairy products purchases for price support through February 20: Butter, Grade A, 54,805,081 lbs.; Butter Grade B, 26,367,377 lbs.; Cheese, 23,837,114 lbs.; Spray Milk solids, 110,073,290 lbs.; Roller Solids, 1,654,151 lbs.

With milk price reductions reported from all sections of U.S., retail prices for standard grade milk delivered to homes in 25 major cities averaged 23.3¢ per quart early in February. This reflects drop of 2/10 of 1% from January.

Milk dealers' average buying price for Class I milk in 100 cities at same time was \$5.39 per cwt., 11 cents less than January, and 10 cents a cwt. below year ago. It's first time since September 1950 that price of Class I milk in any month was below level of year earlier.

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